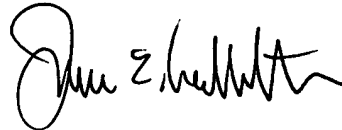


REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment eliminates the multiple dependent claim status of claims 7, 8, 12, 16 and 17. This Preliminary Amendment also amends the claims to remove reference characters.

Early and favorable consideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Date: September 22, 2005

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JEL/spp

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